

This Program Announcement expires on April 1, 2004 unless reissued.

## SUPPLEMENTS TO PROMOTE REENTRY INTO BIOMEDICAL AND BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH CAREERS

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National Institutes of Health  
Office of Research on Women's Health

### PURPOSE

The Institutes and Centers of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) along with the Office of Research on Women's Health announce a continuing program for administrative supplements to research grants to support individuals with high potential to reenter an active research career after taking time off to care for children or attend to other family responsibilities. The aim of these supplements is to encourage such individuals to reenter research careers within the missions of all the program areas of NIH. This program will provide administrative supplements to existing NIH research grants for the purpose of supporting full-time or part-time research by these individuals in a program geared to bring their existing research skills and knowledge up to date. It is anticipated that at the completion of the supplement, the reentry scientist will be in a position to apply for a career development (K) award, a research award, or some other form of independent research support.

The NIH recognizes the need to increase the number of women and minorities and people with disabilities in biomedical, behavioral, clinical and social science research careers. Among the reasons for the low representation of women may be the fact that women bear a majority of the responsibilities surrounding child and family care. To address this issue, this program is designed to offer opportunities to women and men who have interrupted their research careers to care for children or parents or to attend to other family responsibilities. A second objective of the program is to mentor and guide those who receive support to reestablish careers in biomedical, behavioral, clinical or social science research. Participating NIH institutes are listed at the end of the announcement.

HEALTHY PEOPLE 2010

The Public Health Service (PHS) is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of "Healthy People 2010," a PHS led national activity for setting priority areas. This Program Announcement (PA), Title of PA, is related to one or more of the priority areas. Potential applicants may obtain a copy of "Healthy People 2010" at <http://www.health.gov/healthypeople/>.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS:** Only the following active NIH award mechanisms at domestic institutions are eligible for Supplements to Promote Reentry into Biomedical and Behavioral Research Careers: R01, R10, R18, R24, R35, R37, P01, P40, P41, P50, P51, U54, P60, U01, U10, and G12. Principal Investigators on such awards are invited to submit a request for an administrative supplement to the awarding component of the parent grant to support an eligible candidate interested in reestablishing a research career. The parent grant should have at least two years of support remaining at the time of the proposed beginning date of the supplemental funding. The rationale for this policy is to assure ample opportunity for the candidate to develop further her or his research skills. A maximum of three years of supplemental support can be awarded under this program. Usually, a research grant or a subproject of a multi-project grant would support only one administrative supplement including Research Supplements for Underrepresented Minorities, Research Supplements for Individuals with Disabilities, or Research Supplements to Promote Reentry into Biomedical, Behavioral, Clinical, and Social Science Research Careers. Grants most likely to support more than a single administrative supplement are multi-project awards.

**CANDIDATES:** Candidates must have a doctoral degree, such as M.D., D.D.S., Ph.D., O.D., D.V.M., or equivalent; at least two years of postdoctoral research experience; and must have had sufficient prior research experience to qualify for a doctoral level research staff or faculty position at the time they left active research. Candidates who have begun the reentry process through a fellowship, traineeship, or similar mechanism are not eligible for this program. Awards will be limited to citizens or non-citizen nationals of the United States or to individuals who have been lawfully admitted for permanent residence (i.e., in possession of an Alien Registration Receipt Card) at the time of application.

The following guidelines will generally be applied with discretion by the individual Institutes and Centers (ICs). In general, the duration of the career interruption should be for at least one year and no more than eight years. Examples of qualifying interruptions would include child rearing; an

incapacitating illness or injury of the candidate, spouse, partner, or a member of the immediate family; relocation to accommodate a spouse, partner, or other close family member; pursuit of non-research endeavors that would permit earlier retirement of debt incurred in obtaining a doctoral degree; and military service. The program is not intended to support additional graduate training and is not intended to support career changes from non-research to research careers for individuals without prior research training. Generally, at the time of application, a candidate should not be engaged in full-time paid research activities. Because NIH Institutes and Centers may have varying degrees of flexibility in interpreting and implementing the reentry program, potential applicants should consult with the contact at the NIH awarding component at the earliest possible stage to discuss his or her unique situation.

## MECHANISM OF SUPPORT

In all cases, the proposed research must be directly related to the funded approved ongoing research of the parent grant or cooperative agreement. The individual supported under this supplemental award, hereafter called the reentry candidate, must be afforded the opportunity to act as a full participant in the research project and must be given an opportunity to update and enhance her or his research capabilities. This will allow the candidate to begin the process of establishing or reestablishing a career as a productive, competitive research investigator. Supplemental awards will be consistent with the goals of strengthening the existing research program and with the overall programmatic balance and priorities of the funding program of the NIH.

Administrative supplements provided under this program may be for either part-time or full-time support for the candidate, and all supported time is to be spent updating and enhancing research skills. Proposed part-time appointments may not be less than 50% effort.

The requested salary and fringe benefits for a reentry candidate must be in accordance with the salary structure of the grantee institution, consistent with the level of effort. An additional amount up to \$10,000 may be requested for supplies, domestic travel, and publication costs relevant to the proposed research. Equipment may not be purchased as a part of this supplement without justification and specific prior approval of the NIH.

The decision to fund a supplement will take six to eight weeks from the time all of the necessary information is received by the awarding IC in an acceptable format. During the first budget period, funds will be provided as an administrative supplement to the parent grant. In subsequent years,

continued funding for the supplement is contingent on funding of the parent grant and cannot extend beyond the current competitive segment of the parent grant.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

A request for a supplement may be made at any time during the funding year, providing there will be two full years of funding remaining for the parent grant at the time of funding. In making requests, the grantee institution, on behalf of the Principal Investigator, SHOULD SUBMIT THE REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS DIRECTLY TO THE AWARDING COMPONENT THAT SUPPORTS THE PARENT GRANT. The request is NOT to be submitted to the NIH Center for Scientific Review. Principal Investigators are encouraged to obtain the address for submission from the NIH program administrator on the parent grant.

The request for a supplemental award must include the following:

1. A completed face page (with appropriate signatures) from grant application form PHS 398 including the title and grant number of the parent grant on line 1 and the type of supplement being requested on line 2.
2. A brief, three- or four-page description, prepared by the Principal Investigator of the parent grant, that includes:
  - a. A summary or abstract of the funded grant or project
  - b. A description of the research proposed for the candidate
  - c. A description of how the supplement will expand and foster the independent research capabilities of the candidate
  - d. A description of how the proposed research relates to the specific research goals and objectives of the parent grant
  - e. A description of the scope and nature of the mentoring relationship between the Principal Investigator and the candidate
3. A brief statement prepared by the candidate, which includes:
  - a. Research objectives and career goals
  - b. Length of and reason for career hiatus
  - c. A description of how the candidate has kept current or attempted to keep current in her/his field

d. Identification of any steps already taken toward reentry (if any, such as attending scientific meetings)

4. A biographical sketch of the candidate that includes:

- a. Curriculum vitae
- b. Social Security number
- c. Citizenship status
- d. Publications
- e. Other evidence of scientific achievement
- f. Current source of support

5. A proposed budget entered on budget pages from the grant application form PHS 398 related to the percent effort for the research proposed for the reentry candidate during the first and future budget period(s). (The amount requested for the supplement must coincide with the current period of support. Thus, if the initial budget period requested is less than 12 months, the budget must be prorated accordingly.)

6. Documentation if applicable, that the proposed research is approved by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) or human subjects Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the grantee institution.

7. Under unusual circumstances where the applicant and mentor would be at a site other than the grantee institution, an appropriately signed letter from the institution where the research is to be conducted must also be submitted.

The request must be signed by the Principal Investigator, the reentry candidate, and the appropriate institution business official.

#### REVIEW CONSIDERATIONS

The program staff of the individual ICs will review requests for supplements using the following general criteria:

o the qualifications of the reentry candidate, including career goals, prior research training, research potential, and any relevant experience

- o the plan for the proposed research experience in the supplemental request and its relationship to the parent grant
- o evidence from the Principal Investigator that the experience will enhance the research potential, knowledge, and/or skills of the reentry candidate
- o evidence from the Principal Investigator that the activities of the reentry candidate are an integral part of the project
- o evidence of effort by the reentry candidate to initiate the reentry process, such as attending scientific meetings, keeping current with journals
- o evidence that proposed research will achieve the stated objectives of the reentry supplements
- o evidence that the Principal Investigator understands the importance of the mentoring component of this supplement and has prepared a mentoring plan

In noncompeting continuation applications, the progress report for the reentry supplement should be clearly delineated from the progress report for the parent grant. The progress report should include information about the research activities supported by the supplement, even if support for future years is not requested. Since these applications will undergo administrative review, summary statements will not be produced. This is consistent with NIH practice for other similar programs, such as those referenced in the ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS section of this program announcement.

## INQUIRIES

For general information about the reentry supplements, candidates and Principal Investigators should contact the program official of the appropriate awarding Institute or Center. Candidates who have not yet made contact with a Principal Investigator are encouraged to contact the program official whose institute or center is specific to the research interest. Program officials from the respective awarding institutes or centers are listed below.

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#### AUTHORITY AND REGULATIONS

The statutory authorities for these grant awards are sections 301, 510, 515, and 504 of the Public Health Service Act. Federal regulations at 42 CFR Part 52, "Grants for Research Projects" and

45 CFR part 74, "Administration of Grants," are applicable to these awards. Grants must be administered in accordance with the NIH Grants Policy Statement (10/98).

The PHS strongly encourages all grant and contract recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and promote the non-use of all tobacco products. In addition, Public Law 103-227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities (or in some cases, any portion of a facility) in which regular or routine education, library, day care, health care or early childhood development services are provided to children. This is consistent with the PHS mission to protect and advance the physical and mental health of the American people.

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